

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment prior to the further examination of the above-referenced application. Applicants have amended claim 16 in order to remove the reference numeral therein. In addition, Applicants have added new claim 26, which is similar to previously presented claim 22. However claim 26 is dependent on claim 24, in contrast to claim 22, which is dependent on claim 1. Thus, no new matter has been added by the amendments.

Additionally, in the Office Action mailed April 7, 2008, the Examiner has required an election of one of the following disclosed species, under PCT Rule 13.1, to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable:

Species I: an optical security element having a relief structure (i.e. grating);

Species II: an optical security element having a relief structure and a verification grating.

In response, Applicant elects without traverse the species corresponding to Claims 1-21 and 23 which are readable thereon. Claims 22, 24, 25 and new claim 26 are hereby withdrawn as corresponding to the non-elected species. Applicant acknowledges and appreciates the Examiner's indication that claim 1 is generic. Therefore, if claim 1 is deemed allowable, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of all the withdrawn claims.

In view of the present election, it is believed that this application is in condition for further consideration and examination. If resolution of any remaining issues is required prior to examination of the application, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Application Serial No. 10/562,330

Docket No. 1093-145 PCT/US

Response to April 7, 2008

Office Communication

Respectfully submitted,

/Tony A. Gayoso/

Tony A. Gayoso

Registration No.: 37,331

Attorney for Applicants

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP

6900 Jericho Turnpike

Syosset, New York 11791-4407

(516) 822-3550

TAG:rd

294028_1